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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,364	03/29/2001	Tatsunori Kanai	205272US2RD	2719

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OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER	
CHEN, TE Y	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2161	

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/820,364	KANAI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Susan Y Chen	2161	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *15 November 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *08/12/04 &10/12/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11/15/2004 has been entered.

Claims 1-20 are pending for examination, claims 1, 7-10, 12-14 and 17-20 have been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-20, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kenner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,716).

As to claims 1, 7-9, 12-14, and 17-20, Kenner et al. (hereinafter referred as Kenner) discloses a computer system [e.g., see Abstract, Fig. 1] with apparatus, methods and computer program products as claimed by applicant, to perform the following processing, comprising:

a multimedia data storage and retrieval system [e.g., see Fig. 1 and associated text starting at col. 4, line 35] with means, methods and computer program product to perform the following functions, comprising:

* a plurality of data management units [for example, the Primary Index Manager (PIM 22, Fig. 1), Remote Index Manager (IM 34, Fig. 1), PIM & IM(s) of Fig. 3; the Software Modules and Database Partition Units of Table 1] for managing a plurality of multimedia data in relation to a time and location information respectively indicating a time and a location of events at which each multimedia data is originally crated [e.g. the Date and Time fields of the table at col. 23 and associated texts] and a location [e.g., the Segment Info and Link Info fields of the table at col. 23 and associated texts; col. 21, line 55-col. 22, line 4; col. 4, lines 35-53, col. 15, lines 35- 56, Fig. 3, col. 24, lines 53-58, col. 25, lines 1-54];

* a plurality of data processing units configured [e.g., the sets of Search and Retrieval Units (SRUs), PIM & IM(s), Terminal and Data Sequencing Interface (DSI) units, Fig. 3; col. 4, line 55 - col. 5, line 8] to obtain the time [e.g., see the date and time parameters in the table of col. 22] and location information [e.g., the Segment Info and Link Info fields of the table at col. 22; or the Regional Identifier (col. 4, lines 58-59), the Location Code (col. 15, lines 24-56)] corresponding to a retrieval request specified by a

user with event names [e.g. the Video ID in the tables of col. 21 – 22 or col. 32, lines 37-39; the virtual URL requested by a user at col. 24, lines 50 - 53].

* a data selection unit configure to retrieve multimedia data from the plurality of multimedia data managed by the data management unit, according to at least one of the time information and the location information [e.g., the Regional Identifier (col. 4, lines 58-59), the Location Code (col. 15, lines 24-56)] obtained by the processing server [e.g., the Primary Index Manager (22, Fig. 1); col. 4, line 66 - col. 5, line 4; col. 5, lines 31-38].

* a retrieval result transmission unit [e.g., the Data Sequencing Interface Unit (30, Fig. 1); col. 5, lines 14-16] configured to provide the multimedia data retrieved by the data selection unit as a retrieval result, through the network to the requestor [see the Data Sequencing Interface Unit (DSI) section at col. 12 - col. 13].

As to claims 2-6, 10-11 and 15-16, Kenner further discloses that the system having the features as claimed by applicant, including:

a) automatically creates a plurality of common index tables (for example, the Audio-visual data index table, the Audio-visual Access list, etc) that contain a plurality of event names, time, and location data for each clip event.[for example, see the table of col. 22, line 52 - col. 23, line 22], such that, the system is able to obtain the event name, time and location information that are related to one multimedia data upon receiving a reverse look-up retrieval request specifying the one multimedia data [e.g. see col. 13, line 66 - col. 15, line 8].

b) a plurality of personal index table for each user [for example, see col. 22, lines 20-44].

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 11/15/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The examiner disagrees with applicant's arguments summarized as following:

1) Kenner does not teach or suggest obtaining time and location information using event names as claimed by applicant.

2) Although Kenner's data and time parameters indicate data and time the file was made by the content provider, these parameters are not obtained according to the event names contains in the retrieval request and subsequently used as the retrieval keys of the index information.

In reply to these arguments, the examiner first points out that the instant specification defined the event name as following:

"events" represent various concepts that are related to at least one and at most n (n.gtoreq.1) types of the attribute information among the n types of the attribute information that can be given to the multimedia data, and a name given to such a concept will be referred to as an "event name". [see Section 0089].

Based on the above definition the Video ID, the Date and Time, the Segment Info and Link Info fields of the clip database as shown at col. 22-23 clearly reads the claimed

event name, time and location attributes. Furthermore, Kenner expressly discloses the following:

"In one embodiment of the present invention, the terminal 50 is a personal computer running an HTML browser 82 with an audio-video decoding and playback "browser extension" 84 as described above. The browser 82 offers the necessary functionality to query and search data distributed across the Internet. The browser extension 84, in addition to offering audio-video display capabilities, possesses the logic required to access audio-video and other data organized and maintained by the local SRU 51, and to decompress audio-visual data derived from the present invention through the local SRU 51. As will be discussed below, the browser extension 84 further allows the user to interact with audio-video clips." [col. 20, line 59 – col. 21, line 4].

"The user terminal 50 is the device through which a user interacts with the delivery system. The terminal 50 typically is a personal computer, workstation, or television set top box. The terminal 50 is capable of running a browser 82 such as Netscape Navigator, and when prompted to do so by the browser 82, can also run an audio-video playback application as a "plug-in" or browser extension 84. The browser extension 84 receives audio/video data in protected and compressed form, and provides a mechanism for the user to receive, unprotect, decompress, and manipulate (i.e. play, rewind, stop, etc.) retrieved clips. The browser extension 84 is also capable of transmitting data back to the network 80, either through the browser 82 or independently. In a preferred embodiment, the browser extension 84 uses functions provided by the local SRU 51 to communicate with the delivery system of the invention...." [col. 21 - col. 28, Operation From the User's Perspective section]

As such, the user of kenner's system clearly can click the parameters of the clip database submitted as request to the system and obtained the claimed location and time information including using the event names contains in the database and subsequently apply these parameters as the retrieval keys for the index information.

As to the rest piece meal interpretation or arguments, applicant rehash issues already address on record.

Therefore, according to the combined discussions cited above, the examiner maintains the same rejection.

Conclusion

To expedite the process of re-examination, the examiner requests that all future correspondences in regard to overcoming prior art rejections or other issues (e.g. 35 U.S.C. 112) set forth by the Examiner prior to the office action, that applicant should provide and link to the most specific page and line numbers of the disclosure where best support is found (see 35 U.S.C. 132).

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Yurkovic (U.S. Patent No. 6,591,300) which disclose a multimedia information retrieving system by using Internet browser service such as time, location, organization and/or category-specific information.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan Y Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-4016. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 571-272-4023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Susan Y Chen
Examiner
Art Unit 2161

January 7, 2005

SAFET METJAHIC
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100